

Oct. 10, 1980

Dear Jim and Vickie,

Thank you both for your letters. I see you're getting along very well, Vickie, and your classes sound just great. That's such a wonderful way to learn about the city, and feel right at home. You and Jim will probably be fluent in Italian by the time you get back. I was surprised to hear that Jimmy could already be understood when talking Italian in Catania. It all sounds so exciting, and I will be anxious to hear about the Athens Marathon.

My life sounds pretty dull in comparison to yours! I've been running 2 miles every day now, and am really enjoying it. I really feel like a runner now that our weather has cooled off and I get strange looks running just in shorts and a

T-shirt. People have asked me if I'm cold, but of course I'm not. By the way, Vickie, I didn't see a Perrier Cherry Blossom T-shirt here, but both you and Jim left a T-shirt, yours was a white Seaside one, and Jim's ~~was~~^{was} several people in a tub. I assumed you left them for me - so I've been wearing them.

It's so nice with Trane in school full-time. She likes it, and comes home exhausted, rests, then runs outside to play with her friends. So, I have lots of time on my hands which I love!

Surprisingly, though, I haven't been going out much yet. Instead I've been straightening out things around the house - drawers, picture albums etc. - things I've wanted in order for 6 years, but never had the time.

I'm also enjoying my Data Processing class 2 days a week during the day. I feel like I have joined the Marines, as the

class is held at Henderson Hall,
military base, and practically
everyone is in uniform. The
instructor is a Marine, and
uses examples like - imagine
your shooting a round of artillery
at a moving target - to explain a
curve, and everyone nods their
head. It's a very pleasant atmosphere,
however, and everyone is so polite.

I've been using our WOK alot,
and am having fried rice, and
vegetables tonight. I'm so glad I
learned how to use it. Your
meals in Italy sounded so good,
Jim.

Well, I better start dinner.
I can't remember which race these
pictures are from - maybe you know.

Love,
Mary